Appln. Serial No. 10/723,037 Amendment Dated March 1, 2007 Reply to Office Action Mailed December 1, 2006

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Amend paragraph [0023], on pages 6-7, as follows:

[0023] It is also noted that drive controller 200 may be linked to system controller 210 in any suitable manner, including via a direct and/or network connection. In an exemplary implementation, drive controller 200, system controller 210, and user interface module 220 may be linked via I/O ports. I/O ports may include data ports 231a, 231b (e.g., a SCSI interface) and communications or COMM port 232a, 232b and 235c (e.g., a serial interface). Data ports 231a, 231b may be used for data transfer signals (e.g., between drive controller 200 and system controller 210) and COMM ports 232a, 232b may be used for control signals. Communications between the drive controller 200 and the user interface module 220 may be via a communication path (e.g., illustrated by arrows 238a, 238b) established between COMM ports 232a, 232b, and 235e, and is separate from a data path (e.g., illustrated by arrows 239) established between data ports 231a, 231b.